

**Meeting Minutes of the
Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 11:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The RGVMPPO Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting was held in-person at City Hall, 118 E. Tyler., Harlingen, TX and virtually via Microsoft Teams. The meeting was called to order by David Hernandez, Chair, at 11:01 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL

RGVMPO BPAC Representatives **PRESENT:**

Organization/Agency	Voting Membership	Alternate
Valley Off-Road Bicycling Association	David Hernandez, Chair	
Caracara Trails	Rose Gowen, Vice-Chair	
City of Weslaco	Omar Rodriguez	Rebekah de la Fuente
City of Sullivan City	Alma Salinas	Ana Mercado
TxDOT Pharr District	Craig Wuensche	Roberto Garza
City of Edinburg	Larry Ayala	Valentin Sanchez Jr.
City of Pharr	Ruben Alfaro	Maria Rangel
City of Brownsville	Christopher Nelson	Juan Pena
Valley Metro	George Huerta	Claudia Olmedo
LRGVDC	Horacio Garza	Nancy Sanchez
UTRGV	Rodney Gomez	Pablo Aguilar
TPWD	Javier De Leon	Kelly Malkoski
Citizen At-Large	Nina Torkelson	Robert Ordez
Citizen At-Large	Richard Cavin	
Citizen At-Large	Ana Adame	Tracy Roberts
Citizen At-Large	Michael McNew	Jon Ray Bocanegra

Other Attendees:

- Hebert C., City of McAllen Traffic Dept.
- Javier Mendez, City of Harlingen
- Rick Carrera, Valley Metro

- Ana Hernandez, City of Harlingen
- Jim Carrillo,
- Kerry Irons,

RGVMPO Staff:

- Andrew Canon, Executive Director
- Luis Diaz, Assistant Director
- Melany Rodriguez, GIS Specialist/Planner I
- Javier Dominguez, Planner I
- Rudy Zamora, Planner II

- Klarissa Gonzalez, Planner I
- Miguel Arispe, Planner III
- Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator

BPAC Minutes Approved
June 7, 2023

III. CITIZENS INPUT

No comments were made.

IV. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of April 5, 2023

The Minutes of the April 5, 2023, RGVMPPO BPAC Meeting was tabled until next month. Larry Ayala made the motion to table the Minutes of April 5, 2023. The motion was seconded by Rose Gowen, and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously.**

B. Presentation and Discussion on United States Bicycle Route System

Kerry Irons, with the adventure bicycle association, gave an update on the United States bicycle route system and its proposed route connection in Cameron County. This is the first exercise to designate the first USBRS routes in the RGV/ TX. This will be up for agency approval and will work with the incorporation of guidance to proceed with the designation pending the TxDOT Bike Plan.

No action was taken.

C. Presentation and Discussion on the FY2023-2024 RGVMPPO Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Call for Projects

Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator, reviewed the FY 2023- 2024 TASA call for projects schedule of activities and recommendations for the local government to take the LGP101 course to expedite the project development process if the project is selected.

Juan Pena asked if TASA funds allow for adding separate facilities (armadillos, barriers). Craig Wuensche, TxDOT, responded with safety improvements is eligible but it might not be worth the process to go about just as a single project due to AFA development process.

No action was taken.

D. Presentation and Discussion on National Bike Month, Bike to Work Week (May 15-21) and regional walking/running/biking events

Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator, presented on National Bike Month from May 15-21 and regional upcoming events. Regional walk/bike safety videos was brought up for potential production of the RGVMPPO as a public service announcement goal by National Bike Month 2024.

No action was taken.

V. PROJECT UPDATES

A. FY2019-2020 TASA Projects – obligate funds in FY2023 or risk lapsing

Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator, gave an update on the status of the 2019-2020 TASA projects.

B. FY2021-2022 TASA Projects – obligate funds in FY2024 & FY2025

Eva Garcia, Planner III Bike/Ped Program Coordinator, gave an update on the status of the 2021-2022 TASA projects.

VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Juan (Johnny) Pena made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Robert Ordaz, and upon a vote; the **motion passed unanimously.**

BPAC Minutes Approved

June 7, 2023